

**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION REVISED MINUTES**

Thursday **June 24, 2010** @ 4:00
Santa Barbara Police Department Annex
222 E. Anapamu St.

REGULAR MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners: Lennon, Signor, Rodriguez, Parker & Christensen

Staff Present: Councilmember Bendy White, Police Chief Sanchez, Battalion Chief Pat McElroy, Secretary, Barbara Sansone

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Rodriguez to approve minutes of **May 27, 2010**

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Any member of the public may address the Fire & Police Commission for up to one minute on any subject within the jurisdiction of the Commission that is not scheduled for a public hearing before the Commission. The total time for this item is 10 minutes. If you wish to address the Commission under this item, please complete and deliver to the Commission Secretary before the meeting is convened, a "Request to Speak" form, including a description of the subject you wish to address.

None

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

None

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- A discussion was held regarding the September 18, 2010 Special Meeting of the Fire & Police Commission. Secretary Barbara Sansone passed out recorded CD's of this meeting to the Commissioners to act as minutes.; Parker suggested having the next special meeting in 2 weeks, on a Friday, however, this is a Furlough Day and City Hall is closed; Commissioner Lennon will be out of state until July 20th; Chief Sanchez suggested we offer the response at the following regular scheduled meeting, July 22nd when all Commissioners are available; Commissioners Parker & Christiansen said meeting should be held to two hours and other Commissioners all agreed; meeting will be scheduled from 4:00-6:00 at the Fire Department EOC; Chief Sanchez let Commissioners know that staff has been pulled from Finance, Police & Fire to work on the answers to Commissioner Christensen's questions; Commissioner Parker said that he would have his questions ready by the following day
- Commissioner Rodriguez wanted to be sure the Commission was not giving the unions' false hope, regarding what the Commission could do for them.

- Chief Sanchez asked what their intent was; Parker said information was brought to his attention; allegations of potential irregularities regarding budget issues, issues about response times and issues of reporting of crime stats and prioritization of various crimes; Commissioners want to hear both sides of the issue and make recommendations, if any, to City Council; Parker tried to assure everyone that Commissioners were not getting into the middle of negotiations.
- Chief Sanchez said he is happy to answer all questions; absolutely no improprieties; very disappointed that employees did not come to him about these issues instead of having the presentation on June 18th; Chief said officers are the ones who set quarterly/monthly goals.
- Commissioner Parker said there should be a third meeting to discuss what was heard and make a presentation to City Council
- Commissioner Rodriguez said he was concerned that the rest of the police department staff was not being considered by the Commissioners; Commission should support all of the employees (sworn & civilian), not just police officers and firefighters.
- Commissioner Christensen said she is sensitive to the support of civilians at both departments.
- Commissioner Parker gave a brief report on his attendance at the May CompStat meeting; said “suffering” on property crimes; Chief said Bureau is down 1 detective due to back surgery; 4 officers put into Criminal Impact Team and they are part of the Bureau; down 2 detectives total; Chief took our narc officer back from SBRNET
- Possible relocation/time change of the meetings was discussed. Commissioner Parker felt that having the meetings at the police department might be intimidating to some people and should be held somewhere more accessible to the public. Commissioner Rodriguez stated that the meetings used to be held in different locations throughout the City but the public still never chose to come to the meetings. Commissioner Rodriguez also stated that he has arranged his work schedule to be available on Thursdays at 4:00; this seemed to be true for Commissioner Christensen as well.
- Commissioner Parker again mentioned that he would like meetings to be televised (this is not within the City’s budget at this time); Commissioner Christensen asked if the July meeting could be held at the EOC at the fire department; Chief McElroy said the EOC is available on July 22nd and the meeting will be held there. It was suggested that meetings alternate between the Fire Department and the Fire Department.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Christensen suggested staff reports and other notifications be posted on the City’s website. It was agreed that Secretary Barbara Sansone would start posting staff reports, etc. on the City’s Internet website along with the Minutes and Agendas for all future Fire & Police Commission meetings.

7. ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL: DISCUSS WHETHER TO COMPILE AN ANNUAL REPORT FOR COUNCIL

Commissioner Parker suggested putting a report together for Council annually; information will be gathered starting from fiscal year starting July2010. Secretary Barbara Sansone said that she would send a CD of the recorded minutes to Commissioner Parker every month.

MOTION: Rodriguez to nominate Commissioners Parker and Christensen to be the subcommittee for this project.

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote, motion passed

8. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT (Battalion Chief Pat McElroy)

- Chief McElroy distributed to Commissioners monthly response times and incident summaries for May
- 70% of calls are medical
- 3% building fires
- 662 calls/responses in May
- Estimated \$240,000 in loss for home on the Mesa
- High winds blew Plane over at the Airport, fuel emissions
- First vegetation/grass fire at Andorra property; expecting a lot more of this type of fire
- Ongoing negotiations with City Admin office on budget concessions
- Received Grant from Forest Service for \$228,000; with matching funds from the General Fund and Wildfire Assessment District will provide a lot more money for hazard reduction in high fire areas
- Firefighters Alliance (non profit) to date has given City and County agencies close to \$1,000,000; department just wrote a \$37,000 check for equipment; improved breathing apparatus, new Bluetooth equipment.
- Administrative building remodel on track and is expected to begin on 11/29/10.
- Staff involved in search for missing firefighter from Vandenberg; body recovery situation
- Explained the workings of the Santa Barbara Firefighter's Alliance, how money is received and spent; Fire Ball will be held on the 10th.

9. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT –

- Facility study taking place in order to upgrade facilities; locker rooms, etc.
- Department applied & secured a Grant to receive a Bearcat Special Use Vehicle (bulletproof) from the County as a result of a Homeland Security Grant; vehicle is worth approximately \$243,000; to be used in high risk situations by SWAT, CNRT, etc.
- 5 new officers started this week, (4 from San Bernardino Academy and 1 from Hancock College); 3 officers to retire (Menez, Hansen & Gaona); Kyle Lowry (Capt. Lowry's son) will graduate from Ventura Academy on October 22nd
- City Council has given the department permission to "over hire" officers; we have 5 recent graduates and 6-8 additional recruits who will be starting the Academy in October.
- City Council & Jim Armstrong have set aside \$200,000 and given the department permission to "over hire" officers.
- *On Patrol* working on Season 3; give most of money from this to K9 Fund; Contract just signed to show *On Patrol* in England on 48 stations; hoping to go national next year.
- Chief Sanchez discussed the development of the Santa Barbara Police Foundation; monies raised will be used for a variety of things including, officers/employees on extended sick leave, assist families of officers killed in the line of duty and to enhance ability to purchase equipment; Kickoff event to be held on July 8th at the Dreier Museum to start raising money; the next scheduled event, "Brunch with the

Cops” will be held at the Biltmore on October 17th; Dick Wolf of *Law and Order* fame will be the speaker at this event; a golf tournament is held every year on March 17th, St. Patrick’s Day, at the Ojai Valley Inn; from now on the money raised at this event will go to the Santa Barbara Police Foundation

- Lorenzo Carachure murder trial taking place; jury to deliberate next week
- Scoles/Chief Sanchez/Detective Hunter trial to go to Federal Court possibly in December unless there is a summary judgment beforehand.
- The Chief requested that no items be placed on the July 22nd Agenda so that the City could respond to questions submitted by Commissioner Christensen (and Parker?); Commissioners agreed that this was a good idea; The July 22nd meeting be held in the EOC from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm.
- Councilmember White is looking forward to getting salary negotiations taken care of; Plan Santa Barbara – positive results; Barbara Sansone will send a CD to Councilmember White of the June 18th Special Meeting.

10. ADJORN: 5:18